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AR
Gannon
Sep 4

10 May 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for Research and Reports

THROUGH: Acting Chief, Economic Research Area, ORR
THROUGH: Chief, Industrial Division, ORR
THROUGH: Acting Chief, Aircraft Branch, D/I

FROM: [REDACTED] I/AR 25X1A9a

SUBJECT: External Training [REDACTED] 25X1A5a1
[REDACTED] 25X1A5a1

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1. [REDACTED] was engaged in a training program at [REDACTED] from 8 April 1957 through 26 April 1957. The three weeks were spent attending formal courses on aircraft manufacturing program planning, working with members of the Program Planning Unit of the Transport Division on problems pertaining to this subject, and obtaining general background knowledge on aircraft production processes and problems. 25X1A5a1

2. Personnel contacted were:

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3. The main purposes of this training program were to gain familiarity with the processes and problems involved in aircraft production, and to learn the methods employed by a large aircraft company in programming its future production of airplanes. In both cases, the objectives were very well met. The information presented in the formal classroom sessions was amply supplemented and clarified by the hours spent in work and discussion with the members of the Program Planning Unit. Due to the differences in available background information, the approaches and methods used by that group in estimating aircraft production naturally differ

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SUBJECT: External Training at [REDACTED]

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from the methodology used by I/AR. It is felt, however, that the schedule forecasting methods used by the Transport Division group [REDACTED] can be used in many cases as a valuable check on I/AR estimates of Soviet aircraft production. The broad training received by the analyst in the many uses of experience curves, the major elements of a production program, determination of facilities and manpower requirements, and, in general, the use of various forecasting techniques has increased the competency of the analyst for meeting the problems encountered in estimating Soviet aircraft production. The whole program served to impart a better understanding of the processes, the problems, and the detailed planning involved in the production of a large jet aircraft.

4. The cooperation encountered by [REDACTED] on this training trip was outstanding. In spite of heavy workloads, the members of the Program Planning Unit were always extremely willing to devote a great deal of time and effort toward the enlightenment of their visitor. Although the formal classes were well-organized, concise, and very informative, the most valuable hours probably were spent in direct discussion and work with the men of Mr. [REDACTED]

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5. A training program such as this is believed to be of very great value to analysts responsible for estimating Soviet aircraft production. The experience and insight gained by such practical training can only be supplied at an aircraft plant.

6. The trip was well arranged and coordinated. No security difficulties were encountered.

Distribution:

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ORR:D/I/AR: [REDACTED] /3835 25X1A9a

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